

## Sale Catalogues in Reading Central Library

When a house or land is put up for sale, commonly by auction, a document is produced detailing the property. In the Local Studies Collection we have over 4000 Sale Catalogues for buildings and property across the old County of Berkshire and quite a lot of Oxfordshire too.

These can be useful in many ways, most obviously for a house history, showing exactly what the property was like at that time (sometimes including the rent you could expect to pay). They can also be used to show the changes that took place over a period of time, this is more so in the case of major properties such as Whiteknights Park, where we have the details of more than one sale, and it also reflects the fortunes (or lack thereof) of the owners.

Some of the early ones in the collection are:

Earley	Whiteknights Park 1841	Box 6
Appleford	Capital Messuage (Barns Stables, Chaisehouse etc) at Appleford previously belonging to Mr Thomas Justice 20.1.1830	Boxlet
Bradfield	Valuable Freehold Estate 25.7.1850	Boxlet
Finchampstead	Longmoor Farm 28.9.1830	Boxlet
Whitchurch	Path Hill 3.7.1830	Boxlet

Reading	50 Castle Street and Furniture 24 & 25 Aug 1831	Boxlet
Reading	Eldon House - Plan 1860	Boxlet
Reading	Cottages, Katesgrove Lane 4.8.1857	Boxlet
Reading	Oxford Street - Building Ground with Plan 3.7.1830	Boxlet
Reading	Russell Street - Building Land 23.5.1855	Boxlet
Reading	Queen's Road Area - Plan of Corporation of Reading Estate 1834	Boxlet

We also hold many of a more recent date such as:

Henley	Badgemore House 14.10.1970	Boxlet
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These documents vary in size. Larger ones often include maps and/or photographs. Maps can fall between dated OS maps.